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NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)

RECEIVED BY: _____

SENATE

S.B. No. 2095

Introduced by **SENATOR IMEE R. MARCOS**

**AN ACT
ESTABLISHING A COLLEGE OF MEDICINE IN THE DON MARIANO MARCOS
MEMORIAL STATE UNIVERSITY- SOUTH LA UNION CAMPUS LOCATED IN
THE MUNICIPALITY OF AGOO, PROVINCE OF LA UNION, TO BE KNOWN AS
THE DON MARIANO MARCOS MEMORIAL STATE UNIVERSITY-SOUTH LA
UNION CAMPUS-COLLEGE OF MEDICINE, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS
THEREFOR**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Article XIV, Section 1 of the 1987 Constitution mandates that, "*the State shall protect and promote the right of all citizens to quality education at all levels and shall take appropriate steps to make such education accessible to all.*"

On 15 January 1981, the Don Mariano Marcos Memorial State University (DMMMSU) was created by virtue of Presidential Decree No. 1778, which was signed by President Ferdinand E. Marcos. It is the lone state university in La Union that offers quality and accessible world-class education to the residents of La Union and nearby provinces.

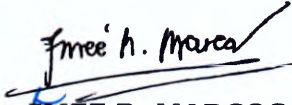
La Union is situated in the Ilocos Region. Despite having some of the region's top hospitals, the province lacks a medical school. The establishment of a medical school in La Union will enable aspiring medical professionals to complete their education at the best institution in the area and perhaps find a treatment for fatal illnesses.

According to the World Bank, there should be one doctor for every 1,000 Filipinos. Due to shortage of doctors in the country, the "Doktor Para sa Bayan Act," was enacted into law which established a medical scholarship and return service program for deserving students in State Universities and Colleges (SUCs). However, if

more accessible institutions are not provided, particularly for provinces like La Union and its bordering provinces in the Region I, the intent of the said law will not be realized.

This bill therefor seeks to establish a College of Medicine in the Don Mariano Marcos Memorial State University - South La Union Campus in Ago, La Union, to be known as Don Mariano Marcos Memorial State University College of Medicine. This measure will help address doctor shortage in the country as the institution will be more accessible to the prospective doctors of Region 1.

In view of the foregoing, the expeditious passage of this bill is earnestly sought.


IMEE R. MARCOS

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THE DON MARIANO MARCOS MEMORIAL STATE UNIVERSITY-SOUTH LA
UNION CAMPUS-COLLEGE OF MEDICINE, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS
THEREFOR**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

1 **SECTION 1. Establishment.** – There is hereby established a medical school in
2 the Don Mariano Marcos Memorial State University (DMMMSU)-South La Union Campus
3 (SLUC) located in the Municipality of Agoo, Province of La Union, to be known as the
4 "Don Mariano Marcos Memorial State University-South La Union Campus-College of
5 Medicine".
6

7 **SEC. 2. General Mandate.** – The Don Mariano Marcos Memorial State University-
8 South La Union Campus College of Medicine, hereinafter referred to as the "College",
9 shall primarily offer a Doctor of Medicine Program, including an Integrated Liberal Arts
10 and Medicine Program, consisting of basic science and clinical courses, and using a
11 learner-centered, competency-based, and community-oriented approach. The primary
12 goal of the College shall be to develop a corps of professional physicians to strengthen
13 the healthcare system of the country, as well as to respond to the human resource
14 development needs of the Province of La Union and Region I.
15

16 The College is also mandated to undertake research and extension
17 services and provide progressive leadership in these areas.

1 **SEC. 3. Governance.** – Being an institution within the DMMMSU System, the
2 governance of the College shall be vested in the Board of Regents of the DMMMSU,
3 hereinafter referred to as the Board, whose powers are defined under Presidential
4 Decree No. 1778, entitled "Establishing the Don Mariano Marcos Memorial State
5 University by Merging the Don Mariano Marcos Memorial State College; the Southern
6 Ilocos Polytechnic State College, the La Union School of Arts and Trades and the La
7 Union Community College and Likewise Integrating the Sapilang Elementary School into
8 the State University: Providing a Chapter for this Purpose and Appropriating Funds
9 Thereof, as amended, and other applicable laws and regulations, unless otherwise
10 provided or amended elsewhere in this Act.

11
12 **SEC. 4. Administration.** – The administration of the College shall be vested in
13 the Chancellor of the DMMMSU- South La Union Campus insofar as may be authorized
14 by the Board and the President of the University.

15
16 **SEC. 5. The College Dean.** – The College shall be headed by a Dean who shall
17 be appointed by the Board, subject to its guidelines on qualifications standards, and
18 based on the recommendation of the Chancellor, following a process of consultation
19 with the constituents of the College. The Dean shall render full-time service, serve a
20 term of three (3) years, and may be reappointed to another term.

21
22 Within six (6) months from the effectivity of this Act, the Chancellor of the College
23 shall constitute the Search Committee for the Deanship.

24
25 The powers and duties of the Dean of the College, in addition to those specifically
26 provided for in this Act, shall include those usually pertaining to the Office of the Dean
27 of similar state universities and colleges and those delegated by the Chancellor.

28
29 The salary of the Dean of the College shall be in accordance with Republic Act
30 No. 11466, otherwise known as the "Salary Standardization Law of 2019", and such
31 other laws amendatory thereto, which may hereinafter be enacted, and shall be
32 comparable to that being received by the Deans of similar educational institutions.

33
34 In case of vacancy in the Office of the Dean by reason of death, compulsory
35 retirement, resignation, removal for cause, or incapacity of the Dean to perform the
36 functions of the office, the Board shall, upon the recommendation of the Chancellor,
37 designate an Officer-in-Charge of the College, pending the appointment of a new Dean:

1 *Provided*, That the Officer-in-Charge shall serve only during the unexpired portion of
2 the term.

3
4 The Dean of the College shall be assisted by a College Secretary, who shall be
5 appointed by the Board.

6
7 **SEC. 6. *The Faculty.*** – The Board shall, upon the recommendation of the
8 Chancellor and the nomination by the President of the DMMMSU, appoint the faculty
9 members of the College: *Provided*, That no political belief, gender preference, cultural
10 or community affiliation or ethnic origin, nor religious opinion or affiliation shall be a
11 matter of inquiry in the appointment of faculty members of the College: *Provided*,
12 *further*, That said appointment shall be subject to the guidelines on qualifications
13 standards set by the Board: *Provided, finally*, That no member of the faculty shall teach
14 for or against any particular church or religious sect.

15
16 **SEC. 7. *Scholarship Programs and Admission.*** – The College shall provide
17 scholarships and other affirmative action programs to assist poor but deserving students
18 who qualify for admission to the College. Students who have availed themselves of the
19 scholarship program under Republic Act No. 11509, otherwise known as the "Doktor
20 Para sa Bayan Act", shall render a return service in accordance with the said law.
21 Students availing themselves of other nationally-funded scholarship programs to
22 complete the medicine degree program under the College may be required to render a
23 return service depending on the contract to be signed between the student and the
24 College.

25
26 No student shall be denied admission to the College by reason of gender, religion,
27 cultural or community affiliation, physical disability, or ethnic origin.

28
29 **SEC. 8. *Academic Freedom and Institutional Autonomy.*** – The College shall
30 enjoy academic freedom and institutional autonomy, pursuant to Paragraph 2, Section
31 5 of Article XIV of the Constitution.

32
33 **SEC. 9. *Authority to Loan or Transfer Apparatus, Equipment or Supplies, and***
34 ***Detail of Personnel.*** – Upon the recommendation of the Chancellor and the request of
35 the Board, through the President of the DMMMSU, the heads of the bureaus and offices
36 of the national government may loan or transfer to the college such apparatus,
37 equipment or supplies as may be needed by it, and detail employees for duty therein
38 when, in the judgment of the head of bureau or office, the apparatus, equipment,

1 supplies or services of such employees can be spared without serious detriment to
2 public service.

3
4 The employees so detailed shall perform such duties as required of them by the
5 Dean of the College, and the time so served shall be counted as part of their regular
6 service.

7
8 **SEC. 10. *Assets, Liabilities, and Personnel.*** – All appropriations, assets, both real
9 and personal, personnel, and records of the College, as well as its liabilities or
10 obligations, shall be titled or named after the DMMMSU.

11
12 All parcels of land belonging to the government to be occupied by the College
13 shall be the property of the DMMMSU, and titled under its name: *Provided, That* should
14 the DMMMSU cease to exist or be abolished or should such aforementioned parcels of
15 land be no longer needed by the DMMMSU, the same shall revert to the Municipality of
16 Agoo or to the Republic of the Philippines, as the case may be.

17
18 **SEC. 11. *Duty and Tax Exemptions.*** – The importation by the College of medical
19 books or publications, medical equipment or instruments which are for medical,
20 laboratory or scientific purposes shall, upon certification by the Commission on Higher
21 Education (CHED), be exempt from customs duties in accordance with the provisions of
22 Republic Act No. 10863, otherwise known as the “Customs Modernization and Tariff Act
23 (CMTA)”. All grants, bequests, endowments, donations, and contributions made to and
24 used actually, directly, and exclusively for educational purposes by the College, shall be
25 exempt from donor’s tax and the same shall be considered as allowable deduction from
26 gross income for purposes of computing the taxable income of the donor in accordance
27 with the provisions of the National Internal Revenue Code of 1997, as amended.

28
29 **SEC. 12. *Suppletory Application.*** – The provisions of Republic Act No. 8292,
30 otherwise known as the “Higher Education Modernization Act of 1997”, shall form part
31 of this Act.

32
33 **SEC. 13. *Appropriations.*** – The amount necessary to carry out the provisions
34 of this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

35
36 **SEC. 14. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** – Within sixty (60) days from
37 the approval of this Act, the Board shall, in consultation with the CHED, issue rules and
38 regulations to implement the provisions of this Act.

1 **SEC. 15. *Separability Clause.*** – If any provision or part of this Act is declared
2 unconstitutional, the remaining parts or provisions not affected shall remain in full force
3 and effect.

4
5 **SEC. 16. *Repealing Clause.*** – All laws, executive orders, issuances, rules and
6 regulations inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

7
8 **SEC. 17. *Effectivity.*** – This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days following
9 the completion of its publication either in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper general
10 circulation in the Philippines.

Approved,